IN THE CLAIMS

Please add newly presented claims 21-25. Please amend
claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 as follows:

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1. (Currently Amended) In a video on demand system for
supplying video data in response to a user request, the
improvement comprising:

a. A plurality of video servers each capable of supplying
10   video data to said user; ~~and~~

b. <u>A memory for storage of said video data responsively</u>
<u>coupled to each of said plurality of video servers; and</u>

<u>c.</u> A multimedia application server responsively coupled to
said ~~plurality of video servers~~ <u>memory</u> which receives said
15   request from said user<u>, spools said video data into said memory,</u>
and ~~directs~~ <u>selects</u> a particular one of said plurality of video
servers to ~~supply~~ <u>stream</u> said video data <u>from said memory</u> to said
user in response to said user request.

20   2. (Original) The video on demand system of claim 1 further
comprising logic which selects said particular one of said
plurality of video servers based upon said particular one of said
plurality of video servers already having said video data loaded.

3. (Original) The video on demand system of claim 1 further comprising logic which selects said particular one of said plurality of video servers based upon which of said plurality of video servers is least utilized.

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4. (Original) The video on demand system of claim 1 further comprising logic which selects said particular one of said plurality of video servers based upon which of said plurality of video servers has sufficient unused storage space.

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5. (Original) The video on demand system of claim 1 further comprising logic which replaces a previous video program from said one of said plurality of video servers with said video data.

15   6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

    a. A video program request generated by a user;

    b. A plurality of video servers each capable of streaming said video program to said user; ~~and~~

    c. <u>A memory for storing said video program responsively</u>

20 <u>coupled to each of said plurality of video servers; and</u>

    <u>d.</u> A multimedia application server <u>responsively coupled to</u> <u>said memory</u> which receives said video program request <u>from said</u> <u>user, spools said video program into said memory,</u> and ~~directs~~ <u>selects</u> one of said plurality of video servers to ~~streaming~~

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stream said video program to said user _from said memory_.

7.   (Original)   An apparatus according to claim 6 wherein said multimedia application server further comprises logic for selecting said one of said plurality of video servers if said one of said plurality of video servers has already loaded said video program.

8.   (Original)   An apparatus according to claim 6 wherein said multimedia server further comprises logic for selecting said one of said plurality of video servers if said one of said plurality of video servers is least busy.

9.   (Original)   An apparatus according to claim 6 wherein said multimedia application server further comprises a logic for selecting said one of said plurality of video servers if said one of said plurality of video servers has sufficient unused storage space.

10.   (Original)   An apparatus according to claim 6 wherein said multimedia application server further comprises logic which directs said one of said plurality of video servers to swap said video program for an existing video program.

11. (Currently Amended) A video on demand system comprising:

a. <u>Storing means for temporarily storing a video program;</u>

b. <u>Receiving</u> means for receiving a user request for a <u>said</u> video program <u>and spooling said video program into said storing means;</u>

b <u>c</u>. Plurality of <u>streaming</u> means <u>responsively coupled to said storing means</u> for streaming said video program; and

c <u>d</u>. <u>Directing</u> means responsively coupled to said receiving means and said plurality of streaming means for directing one of said plurality of streaming means to stream said video program to said user in response to said request.

12. (Original) A video on demand system according to claim 11 wherein said directing means further comprises means for selecting said one of said plurality of streaming means having said video program resident.

13. (Original) A video on demand system according to claim 11 wherein said directing means further comprises means for choosing said one of said plurality of streaming means having sufficient free storage to store said video program.

14. (Original) A video on demand system according to claim 11 wherein said directing means further comprises means for

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identifying said one of said plurality of streaming means having

a previous video program which may be removed to accommodate said

video program.

5   15. (Original) A video on demand system according to claim 14

wherein said directing means further comprises means for

determining that said one of said plurality of streaming means

has sufficient capacity for streaming said video program.

10   16. (Currently Amended) A method of selecting one of a

plurality of video servers for streaming a video program to a

user comprising:

       a. Receiving a message from said user requesting said video

program at a multi-media application server; and

15   b. Spooling said video program into a memory by said multi-

media application server;

       c. Selecting one of a plurality of video servers to stream

said video program to said user from said memory.

20   17. (Original) A method according to claim 16 wherein said

selecting step further comprises:

       a. Determining which of said plurality of video servers

already has said video program resident.

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18. (Original) A method according to claim 16 wherein said selecting step further comprises:

a. Ascertaining which of said plurality of video servers has sufficient storage space to contain said video program.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 16 wherein said selecting step further comprises:

a. Directing said one of said plurality of video servers unload a previously loaded video program and load said video program.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 16 wherein said directing step further comprises:

a. Inhibiting said unloading of said previously loaded video program if the performance utilization of said previously loaded program is greater than the performance utilization of said video program.

21. (New) An apparatus for providing video on demand programming to a plurality of users comprising:

a. A video program request generated by one of said plurality of users;

b. A plurality of video servers each capable of streaming said video program to said one of said plurality of users;

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c.   A memory for storing said video program responsively coupled to each of said plurality of video servers; and

d.   A multimedia application server responsively coupled to said memory which receives said video program request directly from said one of said plurality of users, spools said video program into said memory, and selects one of said plurality of video servers to stream said video program to said one of said plurality of users from said memory.

22.   (New)   An apparatus according to claim 21 wherein said multimedia application server further comprises logic for selecting said one of said plurality of video servers if said one of said plurality of video servers has already loaded said video program.

23.   (New)   An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said multimedia server further comprises logic for selecting said one of said plurality of video servers if said one of said plurality of video servers is least busy of said plurality of video servers.

24.   (New)   An apparatus according to claim 23 wherein said multimedia application server further comprises a logic for selecting said one of said plurality of video servers if said one

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of said plurality of video servers has sufficient unused storage space.

25. (New) An apparatus according to claim 24 wherein said multimedia application server further comprises logic which directs said one of said plurality of video servers to swap said video program for an existing video program.